Knight Life

Knight Life published by office of informati on services

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another divorce . . . makes the headlines!

No! it isn't Marilyn Monroe that is involved in the latest divorce. It is "Knight Life" which is divorcing Miho Air Base. Knight Life is being discontinued for the present time.

Until it is continued again, a weekly mimeographed sheet will be published in its place. This mimeographed sheet will contain news of events taking place at Miho and other matters of interest to the service personnel.

As small as this bulletin may be, it is still yours! It can be highly successful if contributions are made to it by each one of you. During the Korean conflict, the 17th had a weekly mimeo bulletin which maintained interest and a high journalistic standard. Many times this mimeo bulletin brought the news to the men faster than any other media. Through different news services and the faster way of duplicating, the Office of Information Services, hopes to accomplish the same thing, plus many additional services.

It has been noted that the airman on this base aren't as well informed as they should be as to events which directly and indirectly affect them. Many persons do not have the change to scan the papers or have the facilities to listen to the current news. It is the desire of the OIS to put in a compiled form, the news and events which sometimes are only heard through accident or the grapevine, plus many other informational services.

are Conveniences really convenient?

One of the weakest words in the English language is "convenience". Webster defines it as "personal comfort; ease; hence, any labor-saving or comfort-giving appliance or device." The Roman power was strong and mighty when its legions suffered privations at outposts amid desert sands and long winters at the garrisons in Gaul keeping back the every threatening barbarian. When the Empire was thought secure and the battles were fought and won, life retired to the luxury of the baths of Rome and people began to speak of convenience. It is always possible that other nations may follow this path, including our own beloved America. America is great for two reasons; first it has been blessed by God with the best natural resources in the world; secondly its people, living in peace and freedom, have developed those God-given gifts at the cost of great personal sacrifice-forgetting the word convenience!

More and more, however, as our cup runneth over, we find more time for luxuries, less need for work, while the idle hand reaches out for "convenience." We are day by day coming to expect convenience in everything. The housewife is surrounded with them. By setting a clock and turning a dial she can spend a whole afternoon at cards and return to a fully prepared meal. The automobile driver no longer must move his right arm to shift gears, nor his left foot to dim his lights-very convenient. Even our churches must provide convenient times for services, upholstered pews and even padded kneelers.

Conveniences are good for man only as long as he can hold them in distain and occasionally ignore them. Dependence on them brings softness of body, weakness of soul···true sicknesses, which leave the individual a prey not only to physical disease, but to the real killer of sin. The nation suffers also. Many times the Soviets have referred to the "soft, decadent Western powers". Once again the barbarian is pounding at the gates of Rome, believing that luxury rules there and that the force of strength will easily conquer. Sacred Scripture often warns of the dangers to our souls that come with a soft, luxury filled life. Our Saviour, Jesus Christ, gave us every example on how to use these things, but not to abuse them. When recreation and luxury and convenient living become our chief concern we are in grave danger of both physical and moral extermination.

Chap. (1st Lt) James M. O'Grady

April 15th Is New Deadline For Filing Income Tax

In August 1954, Congress enacted into law a new internal revenue code which revised existing income tax statutes in several ways. One change is an extra month added to the deadline for filing income tax forms.

The new date—Apr. 15—will soon be here and many servicemen and their families are beginning to sit down to compute their 1954 income tax bills.

Under the law, all persons who earn $600 or more or who have had income tax withheld from their wages although they were under $600 must file an income tax return. This includes those who are self-employed, minors, professional persons, working wives, servicemen and pensioners. Those who earn under $600 and had tax withheld should file in order to have the tax money returned to them.

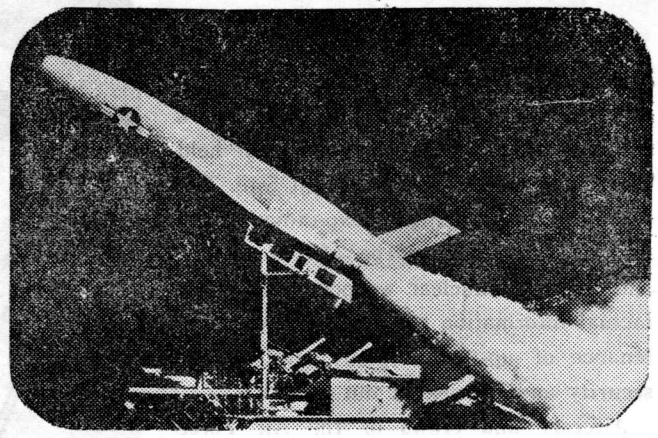
About the only exceptions are enlisted men and warrant officers while serving in a combat zone or hospitalized outside the zone for a period of 180 days as a result of wounds, sickness or injury which occurred in the zone.

The forms used in filing income tax returns are 1040A and 1040—the so-called short form and long form, respectively. Form 1040A is ordinarily used if income is less than $5000 and if not more than $100 of it came from a source not subject to withholding tax, such as dividends, interest, prizes, odd jobs and the like. No money is sent to the Bureau of Internal Revenue along with the form 1040A.

Form 1040 is used by taxpayers who are not authorized to use 1014A or choose not to do so. By using 1040, the tax is computed by the individual through the use of a tax table or a tax rate schedule. If any money is owed to the government above the tax withheld, it is sent along with the form.

Most single persons with only one source of income use the short form whereas most heads of households and those with exceptional deductions or exemptions use the long form. Married couples have the option of filing either a joint return or separate returns. Most couples find they can save money by filing a joint return.

you're going to see Guided Missiles...



We're going to see more and more guided missiles coming into the Air Force in the coming months and years. Not many at first; but gradually they'll be replacing some of our aircraft--and working side by side with others.

"We're at a pay-off stage in the state of development of the guided missile art," said a top Department of Defense research and development expert recently.

So it's obvious that if you want to be in the know, you're going to have to bone up on a few basic facts about these newer weapons.

Maybe you already know that there are six basic jobs that different missiles can perform. They are fired from surface-to-air, from surface-to-surface, from air-to-air, from air-to-surface, from air-to-underwater or from underwater-to-surface.

Air Force missiles are designated as IM (Interceptor Missile), TM (Tactical Missile), SM (Strategic Missile), GAR (Guided Aircraft Rocket), or GAM (Guided Aircraft Missile).

The IM-99 "Bomarc", being developed by the Air Force, is a surface-to-air guided missile. Designed for high altitude, long-range flight, it will be used for an interceptor-type mission. The Air Force's GAR-1 "Falcon" is an air-to-air guided missile, designed to knock out other aircrft with deadly effectiveness. Like the "Bomarc", it will seek out its target and destroy it. The Air Force's TM-61 "Matador", already in operational service in Europe, is a surface-to-surface guided missile. It might be described as something like a jet bomber that would go all the way to the target and explode right on it.

These are only three of a number of guided missiles that the Air Force is researching, developing or buying. Because an enemy would like to learn more about them, facts about most of them are shrouded in secrecy.

The methods of propulsion and guidance used for various types of missiles are of particular interest to people as closely associated with the future of airpower as are members of the Air Force.

The time is not far off when the average airman will be able to explain to his civilian friends the general difference between solid-and liquid propellant rocket motors, and pulse jets, turbojets and ramjets. And he'll know a lot more than the average man about the beam rider guidance system, the command system, guidance by the stars, and other guidance systems.

Now that guided missiles are beginning to take over a bigger role in the Air Force, you can expect more briefing on these new air weapons.

your First Sergeant will be wearing this!

In the very near future, first sergeants will be easily distinguished from master sergeants by a new diamond device which is an addition to their chevrons.

Air Force officials warned that the new design stripes are not ready for either manufacture or wear and personnel should wait until they receive official word on the matter. It is expected that the authorization date will be sometime after April, 1955.

Atomic Tests to be held in the spring

The Air Force will participate with other services in Operation TEAPOT, a series of atomic tests scheduled to be held this spring at the Nevada Test Site. The technical and scientific experiments are designed to evaluate the effects of new and improved nuclear weapons and to get factual information required for the maintenance of up-to-date plans vital to the security and defense of our nation.

Aircraft and crews of the Air Force Special Weapons Center, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico, will participate in the tests as will units of the Strategic and Tactical Air Commands. AF participating units and observers will total about 2,000 officers and airmen.

Pins given to Japanese Employees

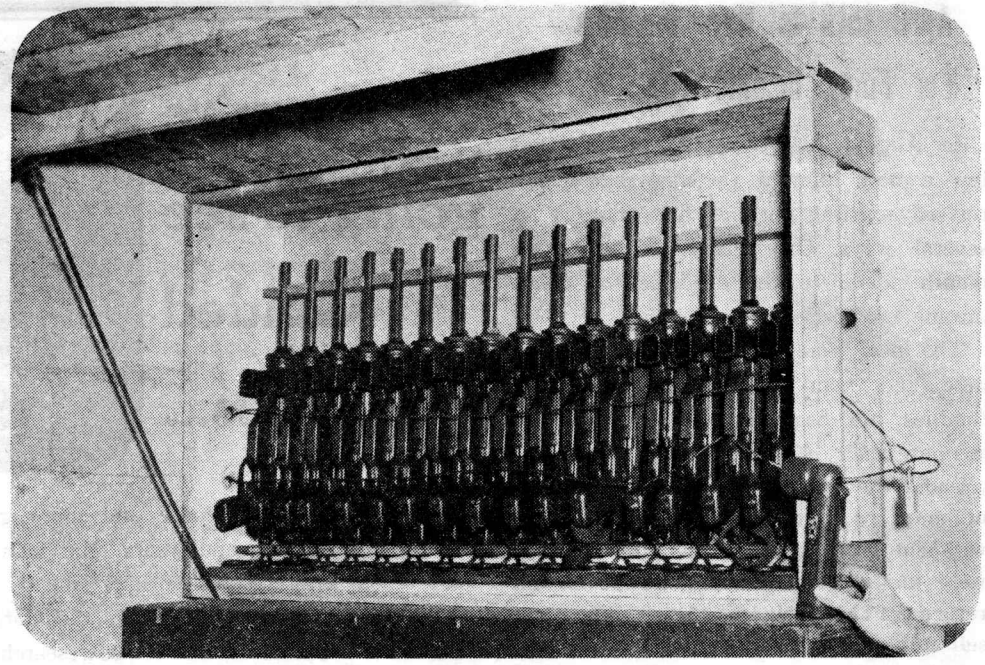
In a special ceremony held recently in the Base Mess Hall, 40 Japanese employees of the Base Exchange were honored for faithful and meritorious service.

Lieutenant Colonel John R. Hane, Air Base Group Commander, delivered the main address in which he told the employees how much the exchange means to the morale of the servicemen. He also stated that the exchange not only improves the morale of the men, but helps make a better fighting machine.

At the conclusion of his address, he presented a certificate and a pin denoting the number of years of service to each employee who had worked for the exchange for two or more years.

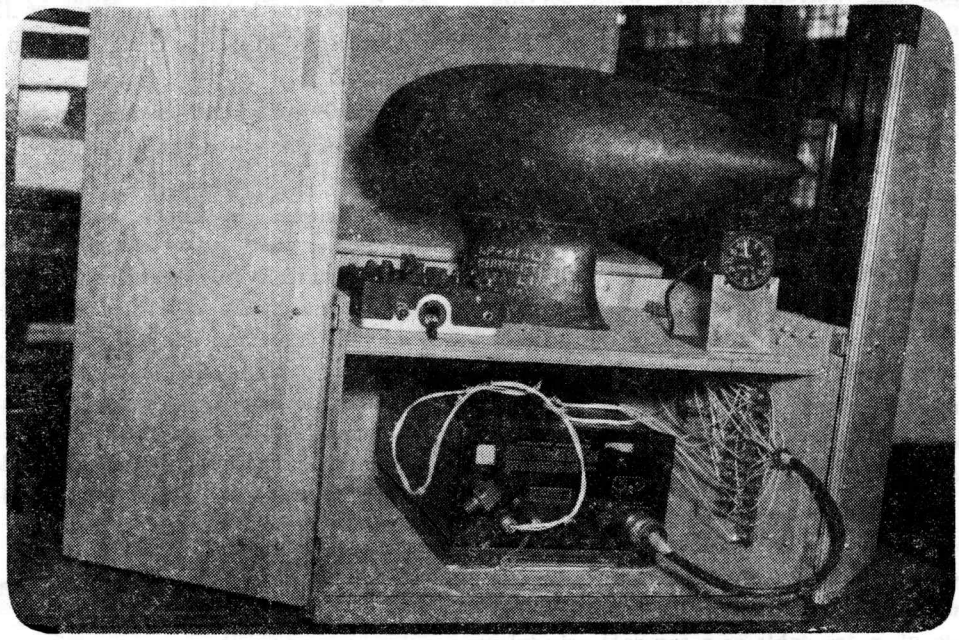
Mr. Soichi Ushio of the warehouse section, who has seven years service, received special commendation for having been employed the longest, and Mr. Kazuo Yoshimochi, stock control clerk, was signaled out for having had six years of service.

Final speakers were Miss Ruth M. George, manager of the Miho Exchange, and Mr. Reisuke Watanabe, personnel coordinator. Miss George extended greetings from the Japan Central Exchange and thanked the employees for helping to elevate the local branch from a class "C" to a class "A" branch. Mr. Watanabe spoke in behalf of all the local employees. At the conclusion of the ceremonies, refreshments were served.



Above: This highly mobile weapons case is one of the many build by the 34th Armament section. The ingenuity of S/Sgt E.J. Shock created this case which has a two-fold feature; mobility and security. *Photos by A/2C Shrodes*

Below: This "bird dog" (radio compass) was made highly mobile by the 34th Electronics section. By enclosing it in a cabinet that can also be used as a shipping crate.



Thunderbirds create ideas for mobility

In the recent mobility move to Korea, the 34th Bomb Squadron called upon the ingenuity and resourcefulness of all its members to create new ideas for transporting equipment.

These ideas were pooled, discussed, and finally approved by Major Pelszynsky, Commander of the 34th.

The above photographs illustrate the fact that the men came up with some excellent ideas to support their move and accomplish their mission.

These suggestions and ideas stand as proof to General Partridge's statement that the Air Force is becoming increasingly mobile and will continue to do so. Some of these gadgets may well be utilized among other organizations in the future.

superstitions around Miho

by ernest fukuta

This is not because I've run out of legends but I want to inform you, while I can, of strange customs some people in this area observe.

Three years ago, a few days after I began working at this base, I was lodging in a village just outside of Sakai town. Late one night, my laundress came to my room to announce that some lady was at the entrance to see me. Being a total stranger in the place, I hadn't known a soul there···much less, a lady. Feeling not a little excited, I went to the door, to find a country girl of my age standing shyly. She solemnly told me that my presence at her home was being earnestly required by the old spirit fox which, according to her, has ominipotent power.

Believe me, my surprise was great; I had never had a thing like this happened to me in my life! Disregarding her persistent entreaty, I told her I didn't see any reason why I should go. She said between sobs that unless I complied with the fox-god's desire, something awful would surely happen. Finally I had to give in because not only my laundress, but her mother came to join her in persuading me.

Her home wasn't far. I was led to a small room where I saw two candles burning before what seemed to be a temporary altar. There, I was blindfolded and instructed to softly hold a chopstick, and then she told me to relax and move the chopstick as I felt unconsciously. And whenever I rested the chopstick on its own accord, over a piece of writing, she declared before several witnesses, in a very convincing manner of those who was taken in by a mysterious power, how old I was, from where and why I came here, and what I did every day; and then, she foretold a most bright future for me, demanding my answer to the fox. So, I told her bluntly, I wish the officious animal had left me alone, to the surprise of everybody. Then, she frantically begged for forgiveness for my rude reply.

With the crazy ceremony over, she ordered her parents bring out the prepared dinner of fried bean-curd, which was believed to be the most favorite of the fox, and put the dish into a basket, with which she walked into the darkness, a paper lantern also in her hand. She said she must accompany her invisible guest to where it lived, to a tiny Inari shrine in honor of the fox about a mile into the forest. I was supposed to have gone with her, but this I refused and went home. It was nearly midnight.

Several days later when I ran across her, she explained apologetically that it was through no fault of hers that I was summoned and added that the fox was very much pleased with her for accompanying him home. You will find, all over in Japan, countless small shrines with red columns···mostly in the deserted location, which are dedicated for the fox-deity.

Editor's Note: The fox is revered by many Japanese because it is considered to be the messnger of the gods. Many statues have been made of this deity and these statues have in their mouths a scroll of Buddhist teachings which gives the appearance of the fox eating a hot dog.

background on ★ FORMOSAN ★ Situation

Here's a little background information to fill you in just in case the Reds decide to move on Formosa and we are called to stop them.

It's mostly from the President's 24 January message to Congress calling for a resolution clarifying our policy in the Formosan area.

"In September, 1954 the Chinese Communists opened up heavy artillery fire upon Quemoy Island, one of the natural approaches to Formosa, which had for several years been under the uncontested control of the Republic of China. Then came air attacks of mounting intensity against other Free China islands, notably those in the vicinity of the Tachen group to the north of Formosa. One small island (Ichiang) was seized last week by air and amphibious operations after a gallant few fought bravely for days against overwhelming odds. There have been recent heavy air attacks and artillery fire against the main Tachen Islands themeslves.

"The Chinese Communists themselves assert that these attacks are a prelude to the conquest of Formosa. For example, after the fall of Ichiang, the Peiping radio said that it showed a 'determined will to fight for the liberation of Taiwan (Formosa). Our people will use all their strength to fulfill that task.'

"Clearly, this existing and developing situation *poses a serious danger to the security of our country and of the entire Pacific area and indeed to the peace of the world.* We believe that the situation is one for appropriate action of the United Nations under its charter, for the purpose of ending the present hostilities in that area. We would welcome assumption of such jurisdiction by that body···

"*The actions that the United States must be ready to undertake are of various kinds.* For example, we must be ready to assist the Republic of China to redeploy and consolidate its forces if it should so desire. Some of these forces are scattered throughout the smaller offshore islands as a result of historical rather than military reasons directly related to defending Formosa. Because of the air situation in the area, *withdrawals for the purpose of redeployment of Chinese Nationalist forces would be impractical without assistance of the armed forces of the United States.*

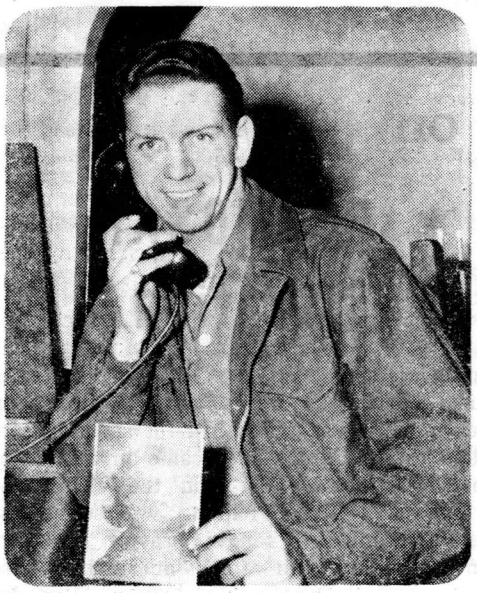
"Moreover, *we must be alert to any concentration or employment of Chinese Communist forces obviously undertaken to facilitate attack upon Formosa and be prepared to take appropriate military action.*

"I do not suggest that the United States enlarge its defensive obligations beyond Formosa and the Pescadores as provided by the treaty now awaiting ratification. But unhappily, the danger of armed attack directed against that area compels us to take into account closely related localities and actions which, under current conditions, might determine the failure or the success of such an attack. *The authority* that may be accorded by the Congress *would be used only in situations which are recognizable as parts of, or definite preliminaries to, an attack against the main positions of Formosa and the Pescadores···*

"Again I say that we would welcome action by the United Nations which might, in fact, bring an end to the active hostilities in the area. *This critical situation has been created by the choice of the Chinese Communists, not by us.* Their offensive military intent has been flaunted to the whole world by words and by deeds. *Just as they created the situation, so they can end it if they so choose···*"

The House and Senate quickly passed the historic resolution, and the President signed it on January 29.

"We are ready to support a United Nations effort to end the present hostilities in the area," the President said at the signing. "But we also *are united in our determination to defend an area vital to the security of the United States and the free world.*"



SWEETHEART CONTEST Making a phone call to the States is a first prize in the recent Sweetheart contest that was held by the Tropicanna service club is A/3c Bob Lewis of the 17th Motor Vehicle Squadron. In the right photo, the judges, Cpl. Forslund, Col. Bronson, and Mrs, Waite are making their choice as to who is to be the "Sweetheart of the 17th"

PROPOSED INCREASE IN BASE PAY

Years of Service

Pay Grd	Under 2	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6	Over 8	Over 10	Over 12	Over 14	Over 16	Over 18	Over 22	Over 26	Over 30	Over 35
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS															
O-8	963.30	963.30	1014.00	1014.00	1014.00	1014.00	1014.00	1014.00	1014.00	1014.00	1014.00	1014.00	1014.00	1076.40	1138.80
O-7	800.28	800.28	842.00	842.40	842.40	842.40	842.40	842.40	842.40	842.40	842.40	842.40	904.80	967.20	967.20
O-6	592.80	592.80	624.00	624.00	624.00	624.00	624.00	624.00	624.00	655.20	717.60	748.80	780.00	811.20	811.20
O-5	474.24	474.24	499.20	499.20	499.20	499.20	499.20	530.40	561.60	577.20	608.40	639.60	670.80	670.80	670.80
O-4	400.14	400.14	421.20	421.20	421.20	452.40	483.60	499.20	514.80	530.40	561.60	577.20	592.80	592.80	592.80
O-3	326.04	326.04	343.20	374.40	405.60	421.20	436.80	452.40	468.00	483.60	499.20	514.80	514.80	514.80	514.80
O-2	259.36	274.18	335.40	335.40	351.00	366.60	382.20	397.80	413.40	413.40	413.40	413.40	413.40	413.40	413.40
O-1	222.30	237.12	296.40	296.40	312.00	327.60	343.20	358.80	374.40	374.40	374.40	374.40	374.40	374.40	374.40
WARRANT OFFICERS															
W-4	332.90	343.20	343.20	343.20	358.80	374.40	390.00	421.20	452.40	468.00	483.60	499.20	514.80	530.40	530.40
W-3	302.64	312.00	312.00	312.00	319.80	327.60	343.20	358.80	366.60	374.40	390.00	405.60	421.20	436.80	436.80
W-2	264.82	273.00	273.00	273.00	288.60	304.20	312.00	319.80	327.60	335.40	351.00	366.60	382.20	397.80	397.80
W-1	219.42	251.20	251.20	251.20	266.80	286.30	294.10	305.80	313.60	321.40	337.00	352.60	368.20	368.20	368.20
ENLISTED PERSONS															
E-7	206.39	210.60	210.60	218.40	234.00	253.00	261.30	273.00	280.80	288.60	304.20	319.80	335.40	335.40	335.40
E-6	175.81	179.40	179.40	195.00	214.50	222.30	234.00	241.80	249.60	257.40	273.00	273.00	273.00	273.00	273.00
E-5	145.24	163.80	163.80	183.30	191.10	202.80	210.60	218.40	226.20	234.00	241.80	241.80	241.80	241.80	241.80
E-4	122.30	140.40	140.40	159.90	167.70	179.40	187.20	195.00	202.80	202.80	202.80	202.80	202.80	202.80	202.80
E-3	99.37	117.00	117.00	132.60	132.60	132.60	137.59	145.24	152.88	152.88	152.88	152.88	152.88	152.88	152.88
E-2	85.80	101.40	101.40	101.40	109.20	117.00	124.80	124.80	124.80	124.80	124.80	124.80	124.80	124.80	124.80
E-1	83.20	91.00	98.80	98.80	98.80	98.80	98.80	98.80	98.80	98.80	98.80	98.80	98.80	98.80	98.80
E-1 (Under 4 Mos)	78.00														

PROPOSED INCENTIVE PAY FOR HAZARDOUS DUTY

Years of Service

Pay Grd	Under 2	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6	Over 8	Over 10	Over 12	Over 14	Over 16	Over 18	Over 22	Over 26	Over 30	Over 35
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS															
O-8	155.00	155.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00
O-7	150.00	150.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00
O-6	200.00	200.00	210.00	210.00	210.00	210.00	210.00	210.00	210.00	220.00	245.00	245.00	245.00	245.00	245.00
O-5	190.00	190.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	210.00	225.00	230.00	245.00	245.00	245.00	245.00	245.00
O-4	170.00	170.00	180.00	180.00	180.00	195.00	210.00	215.00	220.00	230.00	240.00	240.00	240.00	240.00	240.00
O-3	145.00	145.00	150.00	165.00	180.00	185.00	190.00	200.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00
O-2	115.00	125.00	150.00	150.00	160.00	165.00	170.00	180.00	185.00	185.00	185.00	185.00	185.00	185.00	185.00
O-1	100.00	105.00	135.00	135.00	140.00	145.00	155.00	160.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00
WARRANT OFFICERS															
W-4	115.00	115.00	115.00	115.00	120.00	125.00	135.00	145.00	155.00	155.00	155.00	155.00	155.00	155.00	155.00
W-3	110.00	115.00	115.00	115.00	120.00	120.00	125.00	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00
W-2	105.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	115.00	120.00	125.00	130.00	130.00	130.00	130.00	130.00	130.00	130.00	130.00
W-1	90.00	105.00	105.00	105.00	110.00	120.00	125.00	130.00	130.00	130.00	130.00	130.00	130.00	130.00	130.00
ENLISTED PERSONS															
E-7	80.00	80.00	80.00	85.00	90.00	95.00	100.00	105.00	105.00	105.00	105.00	105.00	105.00	105.00	105.00
E-6	70.00	70.00	70.00	80.00	85.00	90.00	95.00	95.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
E-5	60.00	70.00	70.00	80.00	80.00	85.00	90.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00
E-4	55.00	65.00	65.00	70.00	75.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00
E-3	55.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00
E-2	50.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00
E-1	50.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00
E-1 (Under 4 Mo)	50.00														

Aviation Cadets 50.00

Views of Miho

by S/sgt Homer Scheirer

LONGEVITY ··· Last week while taking a gander of the new crash boat, I met the new NCOIC of the 22d Crash Boat Det., M/Sgt Emmit Rogers. This is not his first tour at Miho; he pulled a tour of duty here with the boats back in 1948 when the 35th Fighter and later the 618th AC&W were here. According to Roge, the appearance of the base has not changed much but when queried about various physical developements, he said, "I remember when they extended the runways to Oshinozu station and when the 618th built the radio tower outside of the Headquarters building.

DISCONTINUE PENALTY MAIL : ··· Effective July 1, penalty mail will be discontinued throughout the Air Force. It has been determined by surveys and studies that it will be more economical and advantageous to the AF to prepay postage on official first-class matter. AF units will not use penalty envelopes, cards, or labels for military purposes after July 1.

CONGRATULATIONS : ··· Congratulations are in the offing for A/1C Fred Kemper of the 17th Maintenance Sq. Fred, while competing with Fifth Air Force Medel Airplane Team at the Clark Air Field Model Airplane meet, he finished 2nd in the Flying Scale event and 3rd in the Class "A" Speed.

BOWLING TOURNEY : ··· Before closing this column of idle prattle, I'd like to doff my hat to Col. H. F. Bronson, Base CO, Lt. Bill C. Williams, Special Service Officer, and all other people who helped make the Bowling Tournament a huge success ··· This was the first time a major sporting event was staged at Miho. In 1953, the Southern Japan Air Force Tennis Tourny was scheduled for Miho butit was canceled because it was thought that Miho was too small and isolated to be a host base.

the Origin of Chopsticks

Have you ever wondered why the people of the Orient eat their food with chopsticks instead of with forks? The origin of chopsticks came about in this way :

Many centuries ago there lived in the ancient capital of China, Sianfu, a voung princess by the name of Em Eli Po. She was a charming princess. All Those who knew her loved her and her gentleness was known throughout the kingdom.

Princess Em's favorite position was to sit in the castle garden and watch her pet white crow, Chin. Chin would come from his nest in the nearby mountains and fly to her side each morning and the princess would feed him. The princess would take delight in her pet as he flew around the garden chewing his food and sunning himself by her side.

One morning, the princess sat in the garden with a plate of food for her pet crow. He never appeared. She waited patiently for days afterwards. Still her pet failed to make an appearance. While she waited, she looked at the plate of food she had prepared for Chin and took a hairpin out of her hair and pecked her own food recalling how her pet crow used to eat. In a little while had eaten all her food in this manner.

Time passed and the women of the palace noticed her strange manner of eating. Since they loved her and she was gentle natured, the women copied her way of eating with hairpins because it represented her traits. Soon the men of the palace stopped eating with their fingers and adopted this new method; using one sharpened stick. Soon the common people adopted the chopstick because it was used by all the nobles.

Then two sticks were used because the food was easier to handle. People started to try and outdo one another by having jeweled and carved chopsticks. It was a sign of wealth to have a jewled pair of these eating sticks. Today, the people of the Orient are taught to eat with chopsticks when they are about three years old or are able to sit at the table. The craftsmanship, exemplified in their many arts, is highly attributed to the use of chopsticks which helps develop dexterity of the hands.

Airmen to be reassigned for Personal Reasons

A new reassignment policy beginning in April will permit airmen based in the United States to request change of station within the Z. I. where personal hardship can be eased by the move.

Such a transter will be made at the individual's expense. He also must transfer where there is a vacancy for his AF specialty(AFSC).

Reassignment for individual convenience is only considered now in emergency or extreme situations.

Under the new policy, request for reassignment to a base of choice will be considered for less severe reasons. For example, an airman may own a home near another AF base. If a vacancy for his AFSC exists at that base, consideration will be given his request for reassignment at the base nearest his home.

Other reasons and fnll procedure for requesting transfers are outlined as "individual permissive assignment" in the new personnel manual, AFM 35-11 to be distributed down to squadron level in April by Hqs USAF.

Bermuda added to Concurrent Dependant Travel

Hqs USAF has authorized concurrent dependent travel to Bermuda by advance application of eligible airmen and officers.

At the same time personnel officials said that concurrent travel to Panama is now automatic for all airmen and officers who are authorized transportation of dependents.

USAF began a stepped-up concurrent travel program last August for as many AF members as possible to as many areas throughout the world where housing conditions would make it practicable. Early in August concurrent dependent travel was opened to continental Europe, the United Kingdom, Turkey, French Morocco and Libya. Some ranks were permitted automatic authorization, and others were required to make advance applications because of housing shortages in some areas.

In September concurrent travel was authorized from the U. S. to the Caribbean Air Command, Panama, and in November it was opened to qualified personnel for three air force bases in Alaska.

Complete implementing instructions have been furished to the field so eligible personnel may know how to apply for concurrent travel. Officials at Hqs USAF are working on plans to permit concurrent travel to other oversea areas not yet included among those already announced.

SO YOU ARE GOING TO BUY A JAPANESE CAMERA!

by A/1C Harvey Freidentag

If you don't wear a camera at Miho you are practically out of uniform. Because of this and other evidences that the shutter bug has infected the 17th Wing to epidemic proportions and because the chief apparent cause of the epidemic is the availability of inexpensive though highly efficient Japanese equipment. The editor searched the base for an expert to discuss the pros and cons of Japanese cameras for the benefit of newcomers, who, whether they realize it or not, will soon get the bug and be in the market for cameras.

Not being able to find an expert, he dug me out of the mothballs, and I present this article for your edification with the strict warning that the opinions contained herein are strictly mine, and his approval is neither expressed or implied. I'd also like to add that I'm a little prejudiced as I have a German camera outfitted with Japanese Nikkor lenses.

First off, I'll limit the discussions to the most popular sizes; 35 millimeter and No. 120 roll film. The generally accepted opinion is that 35mm is best adapted for color work and 120 to black and white. The smaller size being able to produce color more cheaply because of the lower film cost. The larger size is better for black and white because it yields a larger image from which higher quality enlargements can bemade.

The Japanese make smaller sized cameras but they are still in the novelty stage. Every 16mm and 14mm job has its own cartridge and photo finishers just won't give them the care necessary to produce acceptable pictures. They are just not practical. At the other end of the scale cameras larger than No. 120 are much too bulky to carry around in the hope of acquiring a good shot once in a while.

By far the most popular group of Japanese camera is the 35mm in the $100-$200 price field. They're compact. They offer a wide choice of fine lenses and despite their initial cost, they retail Stateside two to three times more.

Top Stateside acceptance in this group goes to the Nikon, with Canon running a close second. The former is a product of Japan's leading optical house, Nippon Kogaku, and the latter is a product of the Canon Camera Co Ltd., the oldest Japanese camera company.

Both of these cameras have focal plane shutters, lens-coupled rangefinders, automatic film stops and fine lenses with openings to f 1. 4. All are versatile enough to take both color and black and white under almost all lighting conditions.

The main difference I find in the two is that the Nikon has a long base rangefinder which is more accurate, but the Canon short base rangefinder is easier to use. Revolving lenses are more difficult to use with a polarizing filter, and bayonet mounts are not as precise as a threaded-mount. The Canon (formerly Serenar) lenses are slightly inferior to the Nikkor lenses.

Not to be overlooked are the Leotax, Minolta 35 and the Konica. They are not as popular as the top two but they still represent precision workmanship and turn out excellent results.

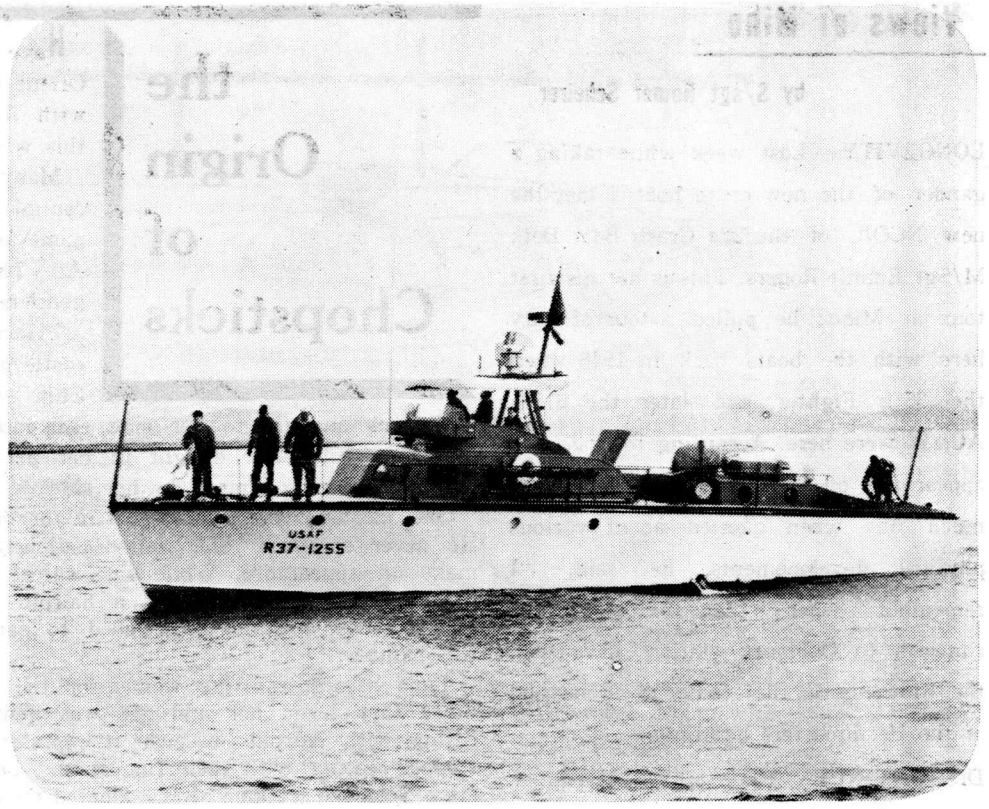
The 35mm jobs under 50 dollars are many and nearly alike. I have seen some fine work put out with them but I believe that you get only what you pay for!

When it comes to Japanese 120 cameras price along is not enough of a breakdown. First you have to split them up into 120 bellows and 120 reflexes. It seems that every company in Japan makes a 120 reflex. In a recent issue of Asahi Camera magazine, Japans leading photographic magazine there were advertisements for 30 different twin lens reflexes. At least, they had 30 different names; most of them look pretty much alike.

Many are of excellent quality. Three outstanding ones are the Mamiya Flex, Minoltaflex and the Aires Reflex. All are equipped with 3.5 or faster lenses, automatic film stops, ground glass viewing screens, magnifier for critical focusing, sports finder and a between the lens shutter of speeds up to 1/500 of a second. All take 2¼ by 2¼ square pictures, 12 to a roll.

The outstanding advantage of the reflex camera is that you see what you take as you take it. This leads to better pictures since you are not so apt to shoot a picture unless it looks right to you.

In addition to the reflexes listed above Japan turns out several budget priced (about $20) reflexes without all the refinements of the more expensive type, but quite capable of taking better-than-average snap shots. I consider two of these outstanding the Richoflex and the Firstflex for all the features. The Richoflex can very inexpensively be adapted to 35mm. (Continued on Page 14.)



NEW CRASH BOAT! **Recently, the 22nd Crash Rescue Detachment of Miho received a new 63 foot crash boat which will help improve the scope of their operations even more. The new ship, equipped with radar and two 600 horsepower engines, has a cruising speed of 30 knots and a range of 400 miles. The crash boat will cover the Miho Bay arca and Japanese Sea while the swamp glidir and jay boat the 22nd has at present, will cover the Nakano-umi Bay area.** *Photo by A/2C Shrodes*

the History of the BLACK KNIGHTS

by A/1C Ted Holmes

This is the story behind the Black Knights of 1955. It's about how they came to be and how they have grown; how the name of the 17th betokened strength and valor in eight countries from Austria to Korea; how four great enemies of freedom and justice weakened beneath its blows until they were crushed.

Above all,this is the story of the men and the planes and the battles they fought. It is a saga of rugged crusades across the deserts of Africa, massive strikes at the industries of Europe, lonely flights over mysterious Japan who had never before felt the blow of an enemy's bombs, and deadly smashes at Communist supply lines in the jagged hills of Korea.

The embryo which eventually developed into the 17th Bombardment Wing was conceived long before anyone ever dreamed of a B-26 and at a time when an organization such as the United States Air Force existed only as a dim spark in the minds of some far-sighted military leaders.

The component tactical units of the 17th were born as far back as the First World War and performed various functions until they were united under the name of the 17th. On October 18, 1927, when the Army first began to realize the full possibilities of air power and began setting up the Air Corps as a distinctive unit, Headquarters, 17th Observation Group, was constituted as an inactive unit by the War Department. The still-inactive observation group was redesignated 17th Pursuit Group on May 8, 1929.

activation

Headquarters, 17th Pursuit Group, was activated at March Field, Calif., on July 15, 1931. Little information about the early days of the 17th is available. Capt. (later Maj. Gen.) Frank O. D. Hunter is known to have been commander of the group in October, 1931. How long he served or how many other commanders the group had prior to the outbreak of WWII is not known.

Before the United States entry into WWII, crews of the 17th flew a variety of machines, including BT-2B's, P-26's, P-12's, B-18's and B-23's. At the outbreak of hostilities in 1941 the group was training in the North American B-25.

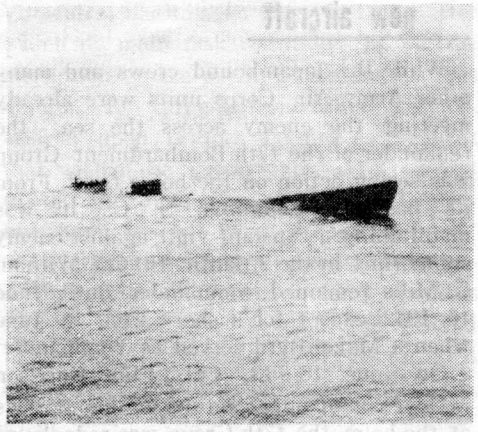
With the changes in type of aircraft came changes in the official designation of the group. On March 1, 1935, it became known as the 17th Attack Group, and with the introduction of bomber type aircraft the name was changed to 17th Bombardment Group (Medium) on October 17, 1939.

So far as the records show, the group remained at March Field until June 24, 1940, when it was moved to McChord Field, Washington. Then on Jeune 29, 1941, it transferred to Pendleton Field, Ore.

war begins

On July 6, 1941, the 17th Bombardment Group, then armed with the B-25, began maneuvers at Felts Field, Wash., Jackson, Miss., Ellington Field, Tex., Augusta, Ga., and Winston-Salem, N. C.

The group returned to Pendleton Field



from maneuvers on Dec. 6, the day before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Within two months the group was back on the east coast. Because U. S. shipping along the coast was beginning to be plagued by German submarine action, the 17th arrived at Lexington County Air Base, S. C., on Feb. 19, 1942, and immediately pursued the task of sub-hunting.

Col. Walter R. Peck was in command of the 17th when the hostilities began. In February, 1942, probably at the time of the group's transfer to South Carolina, Lt. Col. William C. Mills assumed command.

On March 10, 1942, the 89th Reconnaissance Squadron (M), was assigned to the group so that the 17th, including the 34th, 37th, and 95th Squadrons, was made up of four tactical units. The designation of the 89th was changed in April to 432nd Bombardment Squadron (M).

"thirty seconds over Tokyo"

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor was the beginning of a series of disheartening American losses to the Japanese. In addition to quickly taking over the island bases, the Japanese promptly began laying waste to U. S. shipping in the Pacific. These losses were having a telling effect upon morale on the home front.

President Roosevelt and various military leaders recognized the need for a stimulus to morale. So they developed a scheme of launching medium bombers from a U. S. aircraft carrier which would transport the planes to a point near enough to Japan to permit them to attack Tokyo and several other large industrial cities. The planes would then proceed 1,200 miles across the East China Sea to airfields in eastern China.

The planes to be used for the mission would have to have a cruising range of 2,400 miles with a 2,000-lb bomb load, after teking off from the deck of a carrier. After extensive tests, considering both the B-25 and the newly-developed B-26, the B-25 was selected for the job.

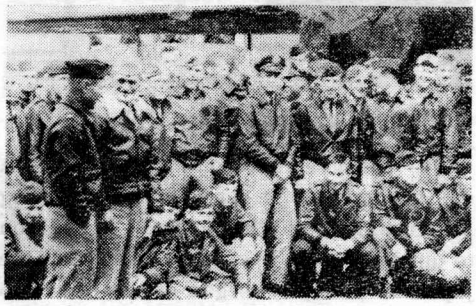
General Arnold chose Lt. Col. James H. Doolittle to lead the expedition, and his 24 crews were selected from the 34th, 37th, and 95th Bomb Squadrons and the 89th Reconnaissance Squadron. All were volunteers. There was no effort to handpick the personnel.

An accelerated training program was begun at Eglin Field, Florida, where the bombers had arrived by March 1. White lines on the ground marked out the distances for the pilots, and by the time the training period was over all of them had taken off twice in a 700-750-foot run with a loaded plane.

They were to leave behind their Norden bombsights so that they would not fall into

enemy hands. Capt. C. R. Greening (later commander of the group) designed a simple substitute bombsight which he called the "Mark Twain", and this was the bombsight carried on the mission.

Sixteen B-25's were lifted aboard the carrier "Hornet" on April 1, 1942, at Alameda Naval Air Station on San Francisco Bay. Next day, carrying 71 AAF officers and 130 enlisted men, the "Hornet" passed out through the Golden Gate, accompanied by two cruisers, four destroyers and an oiler. North of Midway the task force was joined by a similar one from Pearl Harbor, and together they headed toward Japan under the command of Vice



Apm. William F. Halsey. Not until they were well out to sea did any of the fliers, with the exception of Doolittle, know their final objective.

Doolittle hoped to reach a point 450 statute miles from Japan but believed it possible, if necessary, to take off from 550 miles. However, at 0738 the morning of April 18, when the fleet was about 800 miles from Tokyo, they were sighted by a Japanese patrol boat. Fearful that the boat had flashed a warning to the mainland and that enemy bombers would strike the surface force prior to the launch, Halsey ordered the B-25's off at 0800, about 10 hours earlier than was originally planned.

The crews entered their planes among mild confusion caused by the change in plans. At 0818 Colonel Doolittle made his run down the plunging deck into a 40-knot gale, which was sending green water over the bow and wetting the flight deck. By 0921 the sixteenth plane had taken off and was on its way toward Japan.

Although the patrol boat had warned of the approaching American carriers, Japanese intelligence, not anticipating that the attack would be made from such a distance, had not expected a raid before the following day. Thus the bombers were unopposed as they swept in low over the coast on their way to Tokyo, where an air raid drill was in progress. A full air raid alert was not sounded until Doolittle in the lead plane unloaded his incendiaries at 1215. Almost at once he was followed by Lt. Travis Hoover, attacking from 900 feet with three 500-pound demolition bombs and a single incendiary cluster. Most of the bombers carried a similar load.

Plane after plane roared over Tokyo, bombing and firing oil stores, factory areas, and military installations, while others went on to strike at Kobe, Yokohama and Nagoya. Despite the best efforts of the Japanese AA gunners, only one bomber was hit, causing only minor damage. Of the 16 planes in the raid, 15 had bombed installations in Japan and all 16 left the home islands.

A tail wind helped to drive the bombers across the East China Sea toward the field they sought in China, but the weather became thick and in the darkness and rain and cloud, one after another, the bombers either crash-landed or were abandoned by their parachuting crews. Of the 50 who parachuted, 49 reached the ground safely and were recovered by Chinese and led to safety, as were 10 more who came down in the planes along the coast. Cpl. Leland D. Faktor was killed in his leap. One plane landed in the sea along the coast and one in a rice paddy, both without scratching their crews, but another was smashed when a landing was attempted on a beach. Every man in its crew was injured, some almost fatally.

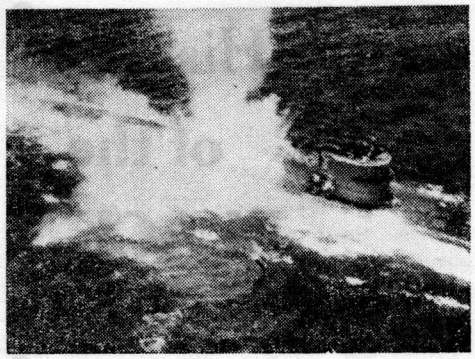
One crew had turned north after the raid on Japan, landed 25 miles north of Vladivostok, and all the crew were interned by the Russians. Two others came down in enemy-held territory in China. Two men apparently drowned from one plane, three others were executed on October 15, 1942, after trial by the Japanese, and four others were recovered at the end of the war after a long detention in enemy prison camps. One man died late in 1943 while in the custody of the Japanese.

new aircraft

While the Japan-bound crews and many other Army Air Corps units were already meeting the enemy across the sea, the remainder of rhe 17th Bombardment Group was seeing action on the home front. From its base at Columbia, S. C., it was maintaining a constant vigil against enemy submarines in the Atlantic. Lt. Col. William C. Mills remained commander until June 16, 1942, except for a short time in June when a Major Byrd served as commander.

On June 16, Lt. Col. Flint Garrison became commander, and during his 12 days at the helm, the 17th Group was redeployed to Barksdale Field, La. Lt. Col. Curtls D. Sluman assumed command on June 28, 1942, and shortly afterwards the group received its new Martin B-26's, fore-runners of the planes the 17th is flying today.

That summer and the next fall were devoted to learning to fly the new aircraft. To prevent any waste in effort, the training program took place over the Gulf of Mexico, where the crews were able to watch out for enemy subs at the same time they were training. The 17th claimed to have sent three submarines to Davy Jonee Locker during this period.



north africa

September,1942, came and with it came the news the group had been waiting for··· overseas orders to North Africa.

Leaving Barksdale between Sept. 18 and Nov. 18, elements of the 17th Bomb Group traveled overseas by various routes. The air echelon, moving through the New York Port of Embarkation, spent some weeks in England before proceeding to North Africa.

The flight echelon, in its own aircraft, flew over the South Atlantic route, running from Morrison Fied, Fla., through Natal, Brazil, Ascenscion Island and the African Gold Coast to Marrakech, French Morrocco. By December 21, these two elements of the group had taken station at Telergma, in Algeria. They were joined there in February 1943 by the ground echelon, which had come by ship from New York to Casablanca.

Upon its arrival in North Africa, the group was assigned to the Twelfth Air Force, which was at that time participating in Project TORCH, a concentrated joint-operations effort designed to stop Germany's famous General Rommel. On Dec. 30, just nine days after it had settled at Telergmo, the 17th was initiated to battle on foreign soil. Six of its B-26's hit the Nazi airdrome at Gabes in Tunisia. The command in North Africa had come to depend a great deal upon the medium bombers rather than the heavies, so on the nex tday, Dec. 31, the 17th returned to the Gabes field with a mixture of demolition bombs and the 100 pound frag clusters which subsequently proved their worth in the Tunisian war. Enemy fighters downed one B-26 which had first been hit by flak.

On New Year's Day, 1943, the 17th went to the heavily defended Tunis marshalling yards, where the intense flak shot down one B-26 and the escort lost a P-40 in an encounter with a half-dozen Me-109's.

Hoyever, on January 4 the German Air Force discovered that unescorted B-26's were to be handled with care. The occasion was a coincidence. An Me-109 and Ju-88 formation arrived to bomb Thelepte at the moment when 11 B-26's arrived over near-by Feriana to pick up escort from the field. The U. S. bombers, realizing they were greatly outnumbered,

turned for home. They were attacked by five Me-109's, however, and the 26's promptly shot down two of them. Meanwhile, the Ju-88's were dive-bombing across the field. Five P-40's got off, made interception, and shot down one of the offending Junkers and one of the remaining Me-109's.

Allied forces in North Africa found the going rough in the early days of 1943, partially because of the inability of the 12th Air Support Command to provide sufficient protection against the Axis air strikes. Enemy air power had been strengthened by the remains of the Desert Luftwaffe and the Italian Air Force, which had come in from Libya.

The mediums were ordered to give the coastal airdrnmes the frag-cluster treatment. On January 31 and the early days of February, the mediums laid waste to the fields at Gabes and Sfax. On February 8, a strike at Gabes brought the enemy up in force. Fourteen P-38's of the 82d Group escorted 15 B-26's of the 17th and 18 B-25's of the 310th Groups. The B-25's took a severe mauling from interceptors which attacked before the target was reached. The escort claimed eight enemy fighters for one P-38, while the B-26's were having an argument of their own with 20-30 fighters which attacked just after the bomb run and molested the 17th's bombers all the way back to the Algerian border. The 26's claimed six of them.

In the four months in which the 17th took part in the North African campaign, 53 missions were flown. The unit bombed enemy supply lines, roads, bridges and troop concentration. They engaged in shipping sweeps over the Mediterranean, and helped in checking Rommel's forces at Kasserine pass.

Lt. Col. Karl E. Baumeister assumed command of the 17th on March 11, 1943. In February, 1943, as a part of the 12th Air Force, the 17th Bombardment Group operated within the framework of the Northwest African Air Forces, with further assignment to the Northwest African Strategic Air Force.

After the fall of the Axis forces in

Africa, the Allied air arm immediately began to soften up the Mediterranean defenses in preparation for the invasion of Sicily and Italy. From May 8 to June 11, the Northwest African Air Forces, including the 17th Bombardment Group, flew 5,285 sorties against Pantelleria, a small but heavily fortified island about half-way between the tip of Tunisia and the island of Siaily. They dropped 6,200 tons of bombs on the island, and after the Cerman troops deserted the island, the Italians surrendered because their lack of morale. Allied commanders credited the fall of the island completely to the Air Corps. The island surrendered without ever being invaded by ground forces.

On May 10, 1943, the 17th Group moved to Sedrata, Algeria. On May 25, Lt. Col. Charles R. Greening, inventor of the "Mark Twain" bombsight and participant in the Tokyo raid, assumed command of the group, and on June 25 the group again moved to Djedeida, Tunisia.

From its base in Tunisia, the group operated against enemy installations in Sardinia and Sicily, and participated in the softening up of Italy by bombing airdromes at Naples, Rome, and other Italian cities.

Colonel Greening was listed as missing in action on July 17, 1943, when his plane was seen to crash in the Naples area. He was later reported a prisoner of war.

Lt. Col. Robert A. Zaiser replaced Greening as commander on July 18, and remained in command untl Oct. 14, 1943, when Maj. Donald L. Gilbert became commander.

invasion of Italy

In September, 1943, when landings took place at Salerno, rroad junctions and bridges constituted the principal targets of the 17th Group. The unit was moved to Villacidro, Sadinia, on Dec. 6, 1943, after which its main task continued to be the disruption of the enemy's communications system. In carrying out this mission, attacks upon bridges became so frequent that within the group they were referred to as the "monotonous job of bridge-busting."

The tedium of this program was temporarily relieved in February, 1944, when the unit furnished air support for ground troops in the Anzio area. Coordinated operations were carried out on the 9th, 10th, and 20th of February. Another mission of importance was the attack against Ciampino airdrom, near Rome, on Jan. 13, 1944. For outstanding performance on this occasion, the unit received its first Distinguished Unit Citation.

Meanwhile, the Allied forces near Cassino were stalemated in their efforts to push through the Gustav Line, join the Anzio forces and make a drive on Rome. General Arnold believed that proper application of air power could be used to open the way for the ground troops to break through the Axis lines.

Bad weather postponed any such air operation until March 15, when promptly at 0830 B-25's launched the air assault on the town of Cassino, which proceeded according to schedule (with some exceptions) until noon. In the three and a half hours cf bombardment more than 275 heavies and about 200 mediums dropped more than 1,000 tons of 1,000-pound demolition bombs on the town. Bombing accuracy and adherence to the timetable were far below par for the heavies. But the B-26's of the 17th, 319th, and 320th Bombardment Groups, which put close to 90 per cent of their bombs on the target, "stole the show at Cassino."

The attack completely destroyed Cassino. The wreckage left in the streets slowed down the ground forces so much that the Axis troops were able to recover from the shock of the bombing, and the Allied powets still couldnot break through the Gustav Line.

Major Gilbert, commander of the 17th, was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel in January, 1944, and to colonel in May. He was on TDY to the United States from Feb. 24 to April 20, during which time Major L. E. Horras served as CO. Colonel Gilbert was killed in action July 20, 1944, when the plane in which he was flying crashed in the course of a mission against a railroad bridge in Italy. He is said to have had 91 missions to his credit.

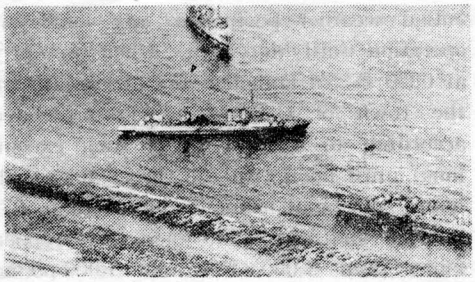
southern France

Further aggressive action on the part of the 17th came in the early part of August, 1944, when the group, now under the command of Lt. Col. R.O. Harrell, began strikes along the southern coast of France, softening up in preparation for the invasion, On the day of the invasion, the 17th was credited with having flown 11 missions, most of which were against gun positions near the landing beaches.

In September, the effort of the group was directed against objectives north and west of Venice in Italy. The 17th was redeployed to Poretta, Corsica, on Sept. 21, enebling the unit to shift its attack farther north, with the greatest weight concentrated in the Padua and Brenner Pass districts.

In the latter part of November, the 17th was moved to Dijon, France. From this station most of its missions were flown against maintenance and supply depots, airplane disposal areas, lines of communication, and ammunition dumps.

In order to facilitate the advance of ground troops, it also attacked targets in



the Siegfried Line and on April 10, 1945, participated in the bombing of Schweinfurt, a mission coordinated with the shelling of anti-aircraft defenses by Army units a few days before the taking of the city by the Allied forces. For this action, the group was awarded its second Distinguished Unit Citation.

With the attack upon German positions on the Ile d'Oleron, the group completed its 600th mission on April 30, 1945, after 28 months in combat. In this attack the group dropped its bombs in a perfect concentration, destroying enemy mine fields and enabling French ground forces to capture the German garrison.

The group flew two missions the following day, bringing an end to its sctivity in WWII, and pushing the final score on missions to 602. The group then went to Horsching Air Base, Linz, Austria, as a part of a disarmament unit.

Then in November, 1945, after spending a month at Clastres Air Strip, France, a tired, victorious 17th headed for home. The unit was completely inactivated on November 26, 1945 at Camp Myles Standish, Mass.

reactivation

On May 19, 1947, when the United States Air Force was being organized as a separate branch of service, the 17th Bombardment Group was reactivated at Langley Field, Va. Larger and heavier bombers had been developed by that time, so the B-26 by comparison was considered a light bomber, and the 17th became a light bombardment group.

The date of the next inactivation is not certain. The 17th is not listed in the USAF Directory after August 31, 1948.

Night Interdiction in Korea

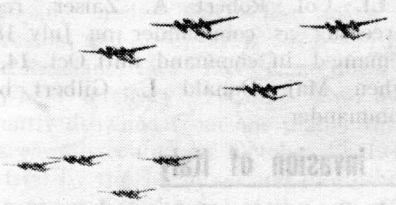
When hostilities broke out in Korea in 1950, the 452d Bombardment Wing (L), an Air Force Reserve outfit from Long Beach, Calif., was quickly activated and brought to the Far East. After a time at Miho Air Base, Japan, the wing was moved to Pusan East Air Base, Korea.

After delivering powerful wallops to the Communists in North Korea for 18 months, the 452d was reverted to reserve status. On May 25, 1952, orders were received to activate the 17th as a Light Bombardment Wing, retroactive to May 10.

The 17th was now composed of its three original tactical squadrons, the 34th, 37th, and 95th, plus the necessary support units. All personnel and equipment held by the 452d were transferred to the 17th. The wing was equipped with the Douglas B-26 "Invader", successor to the Martin "Marander" used by the 17th Bombardment Group during WWII.

Col. Albert W. Fletcher, commander of the 452d, maintained command of the 17th until he was killed in an aircraft accident on June 2, 1952. Col. Glen C. Nye assumed command of the wing on the following day.

The crews of the black bombers were called upon early in the course of the conflict to assume a particularly significant role in the combat against Communist aggression. this was a unique function



known as "loco-busting". U. N. Forces at first found it difficult to stop the movement of supplies from Manchuria to the front lines, because the Communists operated their locomotives and vehicles under the cover of darkness. So it became the work of the 17th and her sister wing, the Third Bombardemnt Wing, to fly over these supply lines at night and destroy locomotives and vehicles.

By the time it had completed its first six months in combat, the 17th destroyed more than a dozen locomotives, about 100 boxcars, and nearly 5,000 supply trucks.

A theatre record for vehicle kills was established in September. 1952, when 1,151 supply trucks were blown up.

The 17th was also charged with wiping out enemy gun positions, troop concentrations, and industrial installations and with giving United Nations ground troops close support.

Some of these industrial raids were made by daylight. Typical of a daylight formation was the wings sucessful attack on a Communist cement plant on the Haeju Peninsula. The plant was left in flaming ruins.

Ninety giant fires were left in its wake when a bomber stream from the 17th worked over a concentration of supply warehouses and shelters in the Punkchong area.

Mixed with the grim duties of war, of course, were the typical American expressions of humor and good morale. In August, 1952,. for instance, the crew of the B-26 "Maiden's Delight" rigged up a new weapon, a kitchen sink, which they turned loose over their target on their final mission before going home. They were then honestly able to say, "We dropped everything on them···including the kitchen sink."

Early in October, 1952, Col. Glenn C. Nye, wing commander, and his crew, were listed as missing in action. Later reports apparently confirmed the belief that Colonel Nye was killed or seriously wounded from enemy artillery before his plane crashed. Col. Clinton C. Wasem replaced him as commander.

As the "Black Knights", as the crews of the 17th came to be known, became more experienced in their work, they began to set and break records. One of the earliest instances came when the wing destroyed 1,151 enemy vehilces in the month of September, 1952.

On October 6, 1952, the Black Knights demonstrated their ability in close support when they threw a perpetual rain of fire against the Communists in the critical battle of White Horse Mountain. The 17th's support assisted the U.N. ground forces in routing a determined enemy, thus securing for the United Nations the defense of the strategically important Chorwon Valley. For this action and other significant activities, the 17th was later awarded the Korean Presidential Unit Citation.

More records were broken in the month of February, 1953, when the Black Knights destroyed 1344 vehicles, nine locomotives, 101 buildings, and four bridges, and inflicted 61 road cuts and 31 rail cuts. The 17th's action accounted for alnost half the vehicles destroyed by the entire Fifth Air Force for that month.

For eight days in June, 1953, the wings activities were devoted entirely to close supprt attacks on front line positions, during which time more than 375 sorties were flown and nealy 2,000,000 pounds of bombs were dropped.

By the time the armistice came in July, 1953, the 17th and 452d had accomplished a combined record of 25,934 combat sorties, requiring 102,034 combat hours. They destryed 28,290 enemy vehicles, 68 locomotives and 933 rail cars.

Korean assistance

After the cessation of hostilities, the combat crews maintained a state of combat readiness through a massive training program. In order to give all the units a part in helping to rebuild war-torn Korea, the Armed Forces Assistance to Korea program was initiated.

In connection with this program, units of the 17th supervised the construction of 10 buildings, including schools, churches, orphanages, homes for war widows, and other types of buildings.

Col. Murdoch W. Campbell served as wing commander for a few day in August, 1953, until the arrival of Col. Daniel W. Tatum, who was commander until July, 1954. Col. George D. Hughes assumed command at that time, but soon went to the United States on TDY. During his absence, Col. Walter H. Williamson was commander, and in September, 1954, Col. Howard F. Bronson Jr. assumed command.

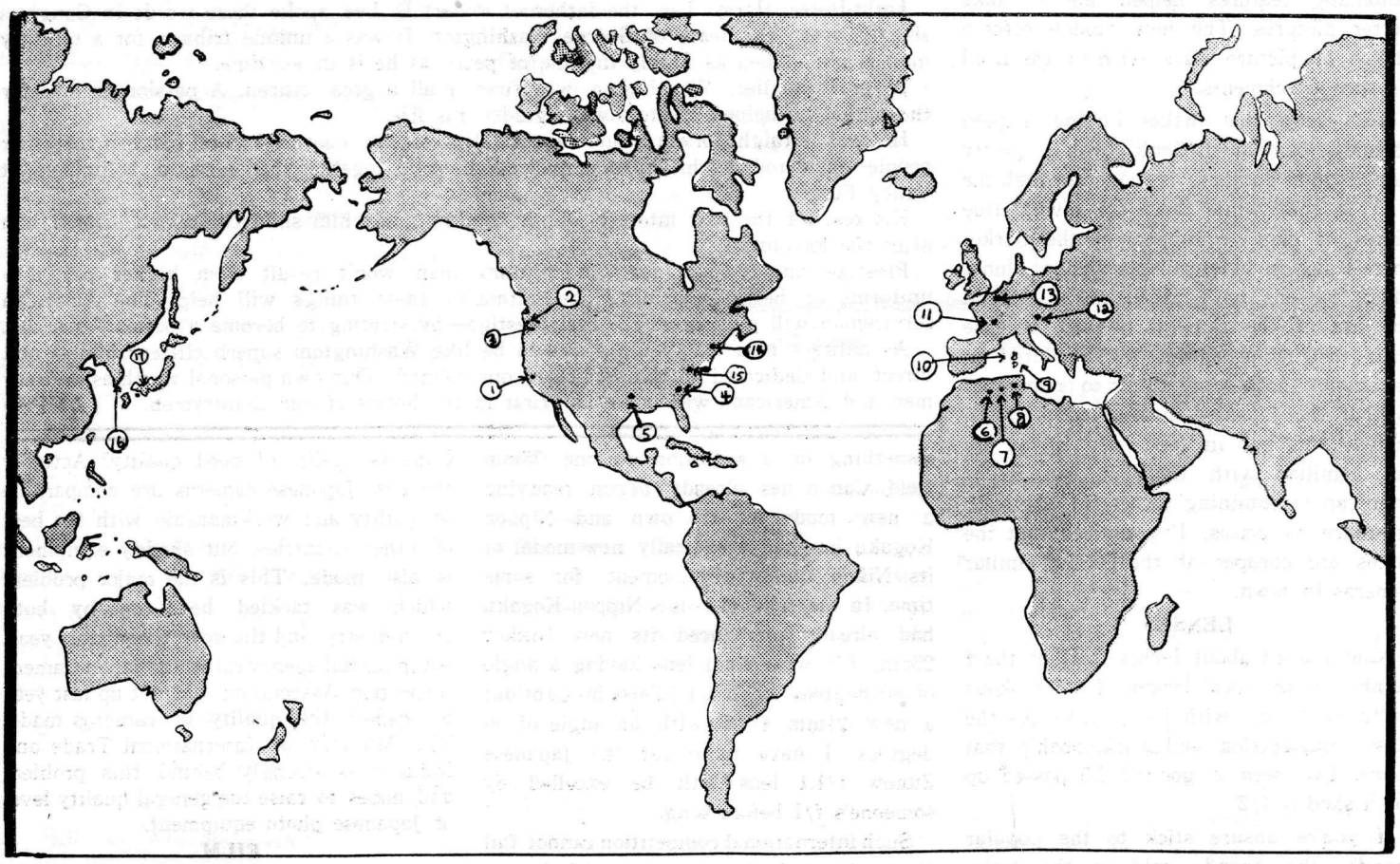
Withdrawal to Japan

The fall of 1954 was marked by the withdrawal of Headquarters Fifth Air Force and many subordinate units from Korea. On October 10, the 17tn was transferred to Miho Air Base Japan. During the Korean campaign, the 17th had stationed its 17th Maintenance Squadron,which had served as Rear Echelon Maintenance Combined Operation for the Third and 17th Bomb Wings and the 67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing.

The redeployment of the 17th to Japan enabled the Black Knights to achieve higher standards of maintenance and training, making certain that should they be sent into battle again, the name of the 17th would forever be synonymous with the terms "strength" and "valor".

Editor's Note: This compilation of the 17th's history was written by A/1c Teddy Holmes after intensive research on his part. Airman Holmes, who is the 17th's historian. wrote this feature article in this interesting and documentary form putting his many years of journalistic experience into it.

the "17th" around the world



1. March Field, Calif., 15 July 1931—24 June 1940
2. McChord Field, Wash., 24 June 1940—29 June 1941
3. Pendleton Field, Ore., 29 June 1941—13 February 1942
4. Lexington County Air Base, S.C. 19 Feb 1942—23 June 1942
5. Barksdale Field, La., 24 June 1942—18 Nov. 1942
6. Telergma, Algeria., 21 Dec 1942—10 May 1943
7. Sedrata, Algeria., 10 May 1943—25 June 1943
8. Djedejida, Tunisia., 25 June 1943—6 Dec 1943
9. Villacidro, Sardinia., 6 Dec 1943—21 Sept 1944
10. Poretta, Corsica., 21 Sept 1944—30 Nov 1944
11. Dijon, France., 30 Nov 1944—16 June 1945
12. Horsching Air Base, Linz, Austria., 18 June 1945—2 Oct 1945
13. Clastres Air Strip, France., 3 Oct 1945—10 Nov 1945
14. Camp Myles Standish, Mass., Nov 1945—26 Nov 1945
15. Langley AFB Va., 19 May 1947—c. Sept 1948
16. Pusan East Air Base, Korea., 10 May 1952—10 Oct 1954
17. Miho Air Base, Japan., 10 Oct 1954—

So you are going to buy a Japanese Camera?

(Continued from page 18)

There are as many bellows-type 120 cameras as there are reflex varieties. Those I've seen around the base are the Mamiya 6, Pearl II and the Semi-Minolta. I've seen the kind of work they do, and they are excellent. Most of the satisfied owners prefer them over the reflex type because they are more compact. The chief disadvantage of the bellows type is the lack of a focusing screen or a rangefinder. This can be easily remedied by the purchase of an accessory rangefinder···there are several on the Japanese market selling for about 2 dollars.

I have owned and used the Mamiya 6 and found it truly a fine camera. All the automatic features helped me to take better pictures. The new models offer a choice of picture sizes without the need for any attachments.

The thing that makes buying a good Japanese camera difficult (you're pretty safe if your purchase is made through the PX) is that while there are several fine pieces of photo equipment on the market there's also in indescribable amount junk. Many persons have asked me to explain the use of the cameras to them because their instruction sheets were printed in Japanese. Another big thing to remember is that the Japanese measurements are in meters and not in feet; also if you are not familiar with them it can be a handicap to obtaining successful shots. In reference to prices, I've noticed that the prices are cheaper at the PX for similar cameras in town.

LENSES

Now a word about lenses, neither the f number or the focal length of a lens have anything to do with its quality···it's the glass, construction and workmanship that count. I've seen a good f/3.5 passed up for a shoddy f/2

If you're unsure stick to the popular brands, the brands sold in the states. Take an expert with you when you go shopping. Look over your prospective purchase carefully. Check the lens for scratches or other imperfections. Try the shutter at all speeds. Be sure the rangefinder works. Most of all remember that after you make the purchase yon're stuck with it.

This spring, E. Leitz & Co introduced its new model M-3 Leica, which caused something of a sensation in the 35mm field. Canon has already begun readying a new model of its own and Nippon Kogaku has had a radically new model of its Nikon under development, for some time. In the field of lenses Nippon Kogaku had already introduced its new Nikkor 25mm f/4 wide field lens having a angle of 80 degrees when Carl Zeiss brought out a new 21mm f/4.5 with an angle of 90 degrees. I have no doubt the Japanese Zunow f/1.1 lens will be excelled by someone's f/I before long.

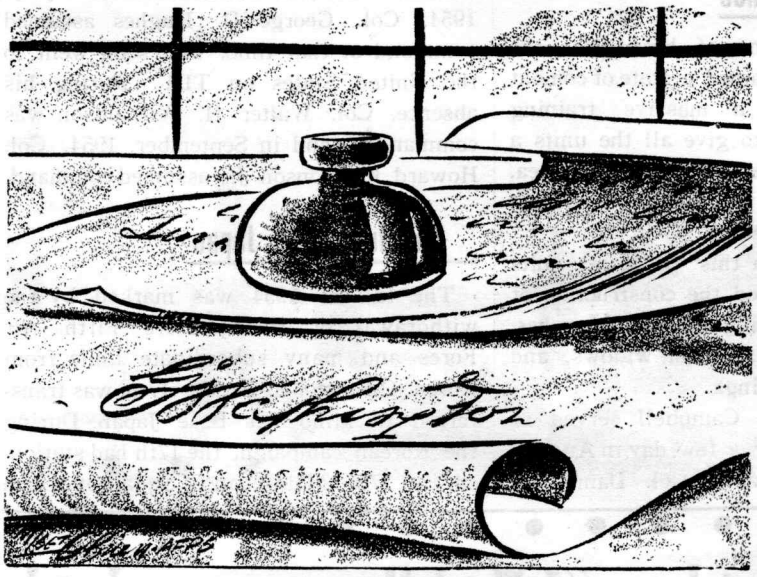
Such international competition cannot fail to result in better cameras and lenses, The Japanese have far to go. When they shake off that old distrust of their genius which has made them imitators of the West. they will undoubtedly make great contributions to photographic progress. The cameras they are making today are all basicly imitations of German prototypes, but the contributions to glass making and lens design are all original.

The biggest question that enters the minds of many people is: Are Japanese cameras really of good quality? Actually the best Japanese cameras are comparable in quality and workmanship with the best of other countries, but shoddy equipment is also made. This is the major problem which was tackled head on by both the industry and the government this year. An impartial agency called the Japan Camera Inspection Association was set up last year to inspect the quality of cameras made. The Ministry of International Trade and Industry is strongly behind this problem and hopes to raise the general quality level of Japanese photo equipment.

FILM

Japanese color films, consist of Fuji Color, Koni Color and Oriental Color. It is not up to our's in quality. From roll to roll it is inconsistent and there is poor reproduction of colors.

Most of the black and white films made here by the leading manufacturers are quite satisfactory but I prefer American films. Japanese photographic papers are very good. Japanese flash bulbs are of a good quality and I would stick to the best known brands-West, Minicam and Matsuda Peace.



"First in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen."

Peacetime Prestige Is Earned

Light-Horse Harry Lee, the father of Robert E. Lee, spoke those words in Congress shortly after the death of George Washington. It was a unique tribute; for a military man is not valued as highly in time of peace as he is in wartime.

A great soldier, Washington was first of all a great citizen. A passionate love for the nation he helped create always guided his life.

He was straight-forward and honest. His strong character and concern for other people—bolstered by his burning patriotism—held together his tattered volunteers at Valley Forge.

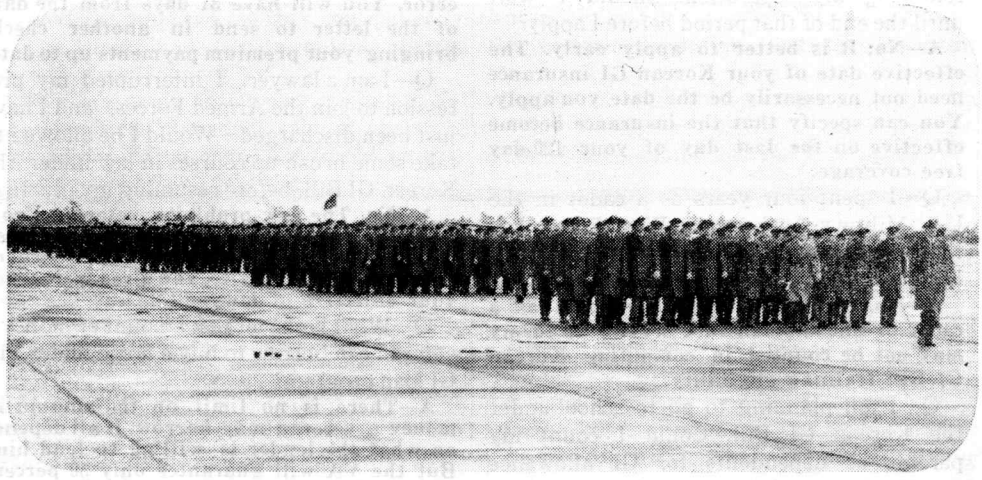
His zeal for the best interests of his country made him shun the crown offered him after the Revolution.

Prestige and respect for the military man won't result from higher pay, new uniforms or better housing alone—although these things will help. The American serviceman will gain prestige—real prestige—by striving to become a better American.

As military men, we should strive to be like Washington: superb citizens, honest and direct, and dedicated to the service of our country. Our own personal worth as military men and Americans will make us "first in the hearts of our countrymen." **(AFPS)**

EYES R-R-RIGHT!

Here is a 17th's airman on parade. On hand to see him are his neighbors and friends from Yonago, Sakai, and all the tiny villages nearby. Now they are seeing the airman as they have never seen him before. They see him working together with his fellow airmen as a team, doing his share as an individual, responding to the command of his leaders. He is well disciplined and he moves with precision. He looks sharp. When the aircraft formations have flown overhead and the troops have passed in review and the heavy equipment has rolled by, the awed Japanese return to their homes, more certain than ever that this airman and his buddies are fully capable of defending their homeland.



NOW YA' KNOW!

HERE ARE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS SERVICEMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES ASK THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION EVERY DAY...

Q—Can a veteran who lives in one state obtain a GI loan for the purchase of property in another state?

A—Yes, it is possible. However, you may find that lenders generally confine their lending operations to certain areas.

Q—I have aterm National Service Life Insurance policy. Premiums were placed under waiver when I returned to active duty. I understand that the waiver will continue for 120 days after my separation from service. May I cut short that 120-day period? I would like to pick up my term policy and then convert it to a permanent plan of insurance, taking advantage of a lower premium rate because of my birth date.

A—Yes. You may resume your term policy at any time after your separation, without waiting for the 120-day period to expire. Of course, once you resume payments you may convert to a permanent plan.

Q—How would my entitlement be used up, in case I decide to take flight training under the Korean GI Bill?

A—Your entitlement would be used up at the rate of one day for each $1.25 paid to you as your GI traing allowance.

Q—I am studying carpentry in a trade school under the Korean GI Bill. I would like to shift to on-the-job training, also in carpentry. Would that be considered my one-and-only change of course, since I still would be training in carpentry?

A—Yes. The switch would be considered your change of course, even though your objective remains the same. The reason is that course content and instructional methods differ so materially between classroom and job training that the two types of training could not conceivably be considered the same course.

Q—I have just been separated from service, and I want to apply for Korean GI insurance. But I don't want to forfeit the free coverage that I have for 120 days following my separation. Should I wait until the end of that period before I apply?

A—No; it is better to apply early. The effective date of your Korean GI insurance need not necessarily be the date you apply. You can specify that the insurance become effective on the last day of your 120-day free coverage.

Q—I spent four years as a cadet in the U.S. Military Acabemy at West Point. Will that time count in computing my eligibility for Korean GI Bill training?

A—No. Under the law, time spent as a cadet or midshipman in a service academy may not be counted in computing Korean GI Bill training eligibility.

Q—I am planning to go to school under the Korean GI Bill. Could I count my parents as dependents for GI allowance purposes?

GEE! I SURE AM LONE-LY...

"My boyfriend who is an airman thought that anything went as long as you can get away with it. That seems to be the attitude of a great many people when it comes to the observance of traffic laws and regulations. My boyfriend couldn't be trusted to obey the law when not being watched and the result is that he got himself killed and now I'm so lonely."

A—You could include your parents as dependents only if they are in fact dependent on you.

Q—I am being retired from active service because I have a service-connected disability. What would my deadline be for getting the special GI insurance for disabled Korea veterans—one year from my retirement, or one year from the date VA adjudicates my disability as service-connected?

A—You would have one year from the date VA determines your disability is service-connected.

Q—Could I take on-the-job training under the Korean GI Bill in a silversmith shop in England?

A—No. Under the law, the only type of Korean GI training you could take outside the U.S. is college training in a VA-approved course.

Q—Toward the end of my grace period, I made ont a check for my monthly GI insurance premium, but I now remember I forgot to sign it. I have plenty of money in the bank to cover the payment. What will happen? Will my insurance lapse?

A—Your insurance will not lapse. VA will send you a letter notifying you of your error. You will have 31 days from the date of the letter to send in another check, bringing your premium payments up to date.

Q—I am a lawyer. I interrupted my profession to join the Armed Forces, and I have just been discharged. Would I be allowed to take some brush-up courses in law under the Korean GI Bill, before resuming my practice?

A—No. The law prohibits veterans from training for objectives they already had reached, by reason of prior experience or training. Before service, you already reached your objective of lawyer.

Q—What is the largest amount of money a veteran can borrow to buy a home under the GI loan program?

A—There is no limit on the amount of money a veteran may borrow. It all depends on what the lender is willing to lend him. But the VA will guarantee only 50 percent of a loan up to a maximum of $15,000.

Q—In figuring out my annual income for VA pension purposes, am I supposed to count only my take-home pay or my gross salary?

A—You must include your total salary and not just your take-home pay. Yourtotal salary includes money withheld for retirement plans and income taxes.

Q—May I take on-the-farm training on a part-time basis under the Korean GI Bill?

A—No. under the law, GI farm training must be taken on a full-time basis.

Q—I uuderstand that if a Korean veteran's training enilement runs out when he is halfway through his semester at school, he will be allowed to finish that semester under the Korean GI Bill. I am taking on-the-job training under the Korean GI Bill. What if my entitlement expires before I'm finished? will I be permitted to complete my training?

A.—No. Under the law, entitlement may be extended only in the case of veterans attending school. It may not be extended for veterans training on-the-job; for them, GI training ends when entitlement ends.

Q.—I have a permanent National Service Life Insurance policy which lapsed two months ago. I want to reinstate it. I know I will have to pay back premiums, but will I also have to pay interest on the premiums?

A.—No. You will not be required to pay interest on premiums in arrears so long as you reinstate your policy in the second or third month of lapse.

Q.—I have been told that the Korean GI Bill prohibits dancing courses. I have enrolled for a degree in physical education at college, and one of the courses I am required to take is dancing. Will I have to give up this course?

A.—No. You will be permitted to take the dancing course, so long as it is offered for credit as an interal part of your physical education program.

Q.—I have some pressing bills for household expenses I would like to pay. Could I get a shortterm GI loan for this purpose?

A.—No. Loans for the purpose of paying household expenses—doctor bills, furniure bills and the like—may not be made under GI terms.

what's cooking?

....at miho air base

tropicana topics

by marian c. pierce

Miss Vonnie Dempsey, of Boise, Idaho, won first place in our Sweetheart Contest. Her photograph was submitted by A/3C Bob Lewis. Bob wins a free telephone call to the states on Valentine's Day. Mrs. Elnora Moore, of Omaha, Nebraska, won second place in the contest. Her Photograph was submitted by her husband, A/3C Luther Moore. Mrs. Moore will receive one dozen red roses on Valentine's Day···If you haven't been to Mt. Daisen, you should plan to go in the near future, on one of the tours before the ski season ends. We have a ski tour leaving the club each morning and a camera tour each Sunday. Judging from the pictures the boys are bringing in the club, there is plenty of action on those skis. And, take my advice, when trying to geta good picture of the snow drifts, stay in the "beaten paths"--I took one step to the right and practically disappeared from sight! ··· Chalk up your cue and enter the pool tournament on Friday night. Our most recent winners are A/1C Ernie Melvin and A/2C J. G. Marks ··· We will "fire-up" the hibachis on the 18th for a wiener roast. What is better than a hot dog roasted over charcoal in a hibachi? A/2C Frank Cogliano has the answer to that--Frank says, "four hot dogs, of course!" But, don't take Frank's word, come over and prove you culinary skill ··· Business is on the "up-grade" with the tape recorder. Many airmen are exchanging tapes with the folks back home every week. The recorder is available for your use at anytime in the club.

Previews of Coming Attractions at the Miho Palace Theater

GORILLA AT LARGE (Cameron Mitchell) Anne Bancroft) Drama

Murder strikes at the Patadise Amusement Park with all the markings designed to incriminate the lead attraction, Goliath, a ferocious. Chief suspects are Joey, a young Barker who has been substituting for Goliath in exciting finale to Laverne Miller's aerial act, and Laverne's husband. The victim, a concessiner named Morse, had been making passes at Joey's girl, Audry and had been stealing money from Miller.

GUNGA DIN (Cary Grant, Joan Fontaine) Drama

This story deals with the adventures of "Gunga Din", a native water carrier and three sergeants of the Queen's own Sappers, during which the humble Hindu matches the soldiers' courage and loyalty in putting down the exciting rebellion.

HIGH AND DRY (Paul Douglas, Dorothy Alison) Comedy

A comedy about a Scot captain of a dilapidated boat, his crew, and their attempt to carry cargo for a dynamic American businessman.

chapel

catholic

Masses

Sun·····0700, 1200, 1700
Mon—Sat ····· 1715
Confessions—Sat ·····1900—2100
Daily Rosary—Mon—Sas ····· 1715

protestant

Sunday
- General Protestant Service ····· 1000
- Sunday School, School Bldg ····· 0900
- L. D. S. service, School Bldg····· 1000
- Evangelistic Service ····· 1900

Wednesday
- Japanese Bible Class····· 1220
- Bible Study····· 1900

Thursday
- Choir Practice····· 2000
- G. I. Gospel Hour ····· 1900

Daily
- Morning Meditation ····· 0730

Correction: The last issue of Knight Life stated that the 37th Bombardment Squadron was selected for the sixth consecutive month as the outstanding tactical squadron for the Wing. Actually it was the seventh month that they were selected as the outstanding squadron.

Courses Offered

Its still not too late to join the USAFI courses at the education center. Here is the schedule of the courses now in progress:

Monday & Wednesday Classes

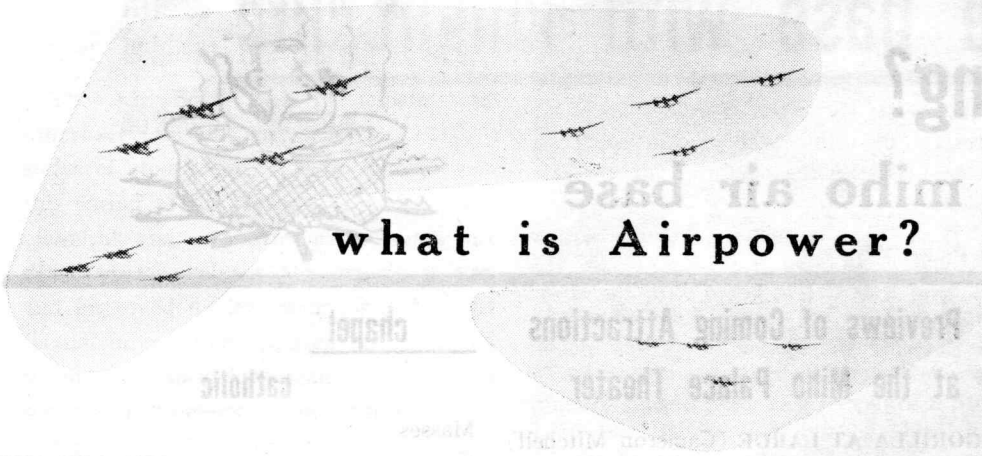
Course	Time
Review English (H.S.)	1830-2000
Beginning Bookkeeping I(H.S.)	1830-2000
English Composition(Col)	1830-2000
Review Mathematics (H.S.)	2000-2130
French I (H.S. or Col)	2000-2130
Introductory Sociology (Col)	2000-2130

Tuesday & Thursday Classes

Spoken Japanese···Beginning	1830-2000
Advanced	2000-2130
Slide Rule (Tech)	1830-2000
American History (H.S.)	1830-2000
Typewriting I (H.S.)	1830-2000
Review of Grammar (H.S.)	1830-2000
Abnormal Psychology (Col)	1830-2000
Beginning Russian I	2000-2130
Beginning Algebra	2000-2130

Afternoon Class: Tues, Wed, Thurs, & Fri.

Review Arithmetic I	1530-1630



what is Airpower?

"Airpower" - - it's a word you often hear or read about but seldom give much thought to.

To many people, airpower and the Air Force are synonymous. The Air Force has always been foremost in developing new equipment, techniques, tactics and concepts of operation to exploit the full potential of aircraft. The vision of its leaders and the devotion to duty of its members have earned for it the right to be proud that, in the United States, airpower and the Air Force are inseparable.

Airpower is a force so powerful that the great nations of today depend on it for their defense and survival. The leaders of our own Government have made it increasingly clear that airpower is the dominant force of our national defense system.

United States airpower is made up of the industrial know-how, the tremendous natural resources and the people of our great Nation. It is the mathematician, the chemist, the prospector, the miner, the skilled workman, the designer, the engineer, the test pilot. It includes our civil airlines, which carry the flag of the United States of America to every area on the globe. It includes our airfields and navigational aids. The crews, the mechanics, the cooks, the clerks of our Air Force are all an integral part of airpower. So are the commanders who direct air operations and the staffs that plan them.

The airplane first appeared as a weapon of war in World War I. It was a fragile weapon, an awkward contraption compared with the supersonic wonders of today. Only a little less awkward were the sincere attempts by the Army and Navy to fit this new weapon into the traditional concepts of land and sea warfare.

Hitler's Air Force easily proved in France at the start of Warld War II that, even though protected by huge land armies and massive concrete fortifications, a nation can be unable to cope with opposing airpower. Soon this same German Air Force was mercilessly pounding Britain. The Nazi advance was stopped for the first time by airpower represented by the Royal Air Force in the "Battle of Britain." Four years later our Air Force had met and bested the German Air Force and was bombing the heartland of Germany at will.

In the Pacific phase of the war Japan was finally reduced to surrender by airpower. Invasion was unnecessary, Japan's military situation was hopeless even before a B-29 dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima. The Strategic Bombing Survey reported that total damage was approximately as bad in Japan as it had been in Germany. Its figures show that 160,800 tons of bombs were dropped on Japan - - 6,800 tons by Navy planes and 154,000 tons by Air Force planes, mostly B-29's. Also, mines planted by B-29's in a 5-month period sank 9.3 per cent of all Japanese merchant tonnage lost during the entire war.

In Korea, airpower proved again its versatility and capability to be decisive even under adverse circumstances. Our Air Force airplanes struck the first blow in support of the United Nations. From this first blow until he signed the Armistice, the Communist invader was relenflessly pounded from the air. UN Air Forces stopped some 800 out of every 1000 tons of enemy supplies from getting to the front lines, kept UN troops unhampered by enemy aircraft, and destroyed an astonishing percentage of all the troops, and guns, tanks, and other materiel lost by the Reds in Korea.

New aircraft and nuclear weapons have made our military air power more powerful today than ever before. Today, real military airpower consists of the air forces that are ready to meet the enemy and carry the air battle to his homeland the instant war comes. It must be built to and kept at peak effective strength, If there is another total war, there will not be time to permit the long buildup that took place in World War II.

Tomorrow, we may be traveling through space - - but airpower will continue to mean "the application of aircraft to exert control and influence." And then, as now, we'll put our money on the U.S. Air Force and airpower as keys to keeping our Nation secure.

Reserve Personnel urged to Review Service Records

Hqs USAF reminds all Air Force Reserve personnel now on extended active duty that they have until July to apply for Reserve promotion under current Reserve temporary promstion policies.

At present Reserve promotion service credit is allowed for all periods of commissioned service. This includes service in temporary AUS, AFUS and USAF grades. Record of this service should be made on the individual's AF Form 1095 to reflect promotion service date.

After July when the Reserve Officers Personnel Act (ROPA) goes into effect only service in permanent grade will be creditable toward promotion.

ROPA will establish a promotion list for Reserve officers similar to that for Regular AF officers. The promotion service date of Reserve officers not on active duty will be computed by the Air Reserve Records Center, Denver, Colorado. Base personnel officers will compute those on active duty.

Full and correct information on the Form 1095 is necessary to insure accurate promotion dates for all personnel. It is the individual's responsibility to see that his records are correct and complete.

NOW'S YOUR CHANCE!

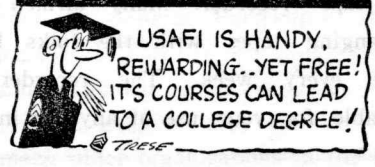
You can become an expert judoist while in the far east. The opportunity to learn this age-old art from masters of the sport, comes but once in a life time to the average serviceman.

At Miho we have two excellent instructors in Mr. Meyako-san and Mr. Abuchi-san, who hold second degree black belts. They also have two assistants who hold black belts.

The cost for this porsonal instruction is but a fraction compared to the cost in the states.

You are invited to come to the Miho gym between the hours of four and six o'clock and watch the practice sessions. You may well have a chance to become a member of the Miho Judo team.

Rhymes of the Times



around the base with knight life

looking at Food Service

On the 11th of January the Squadron held a party at the Sky Club in Oshinozo. Starting at 1600 hours and lasting until??? There was lots of food, beer, and good dance music. Altho quite a few people suffered from "headaches" in the morning, a good time was had by all.

Basketball remains the main topic around the Squadron, with a steady upswing in attendance at the games. Right now a two way tie exists between Food Service and Hilltop, Both teams have lost only one game.

The steady improvement in the team-work and sportsmanship is a credit to the coach Byron L Hurst. Coach Hurst has devoted much of his off duty time to improvement of the team.

Using the shifting zone defense has held the opponents, to a total of 338 points during the eleven games played, while scoring 682 points in return. Scoring within the team is as follows:

Center, Bob Fields	- 188
Forward, Tom Murphy	- 171
Forward, Jim Hansel	- 158
Guard, Jim Castel	- 63
Guard, Jim Simmons	- 36
Forward, Bob Williams	- 38
Guard, Ray Henderson	- 11
Forward, Jake Hollington	- 17

Two exhibition games have been played at Yonago against East & West High Schools. Food Service Emerged victorious from both battles a little scarred and much more aware of Japanese basketball ability. Bob Williams learned another lesson "Judo is very effective."

Arriving from the Zone of Interior to join their husbands were; Mrs. Howard J. Sevedge, who arrived at Yokohama on the 21st of Jaunary, aboard the General Buckner. Mrs. Leigh C Balcom arrived aboard the General William Patrick, on the 28th of December, three days to late for Christmas. In behalf of the whole squadron we welcome you to Miho Air Base, and hope that your stay here is a pleasant one.

Starting a new by-line in this weeks column we are going to have short interveiws with various members of the organization. This weeks victim is, "T/Sgt Hoyal Atchley." Sergeant Atchley has been a member of this organization for the past ten months. During this time he has been the Food Service Technician, responsible for most of the paper-work that backs up the operation of the Mess Hall.

Born in Charleston, Tenn, Sergeant Atchley graduated from Sale Creek High School, Sale Creek Tenn, with the class of 1933.

Entering the service, Sergeant Atchley served 6 years as drill sergeant with the 6th Cavalry. Upon receiving a discharge in 1941, he did not reenter the service until 20 Feb 42, when he joined the 47th Signal Wing as a cook. Again Sergeant Atchley accepted discharge and remained out of the service from 15 Sep 45 till 16 Apr 46, when he entered the Air Force.

At the present time wih only 20 months to ge until retirement, Atchley intends to rest up for awhile, do some fishing and hunting, etc. Having seen a large portion of the world while in the service he intends to either open a restuaraunt or go into the cattle business.

A/1C C. M. Warfield

No! you can't have a stripe just to wear in the parade

34th bombardment Squadron

The members of the 34th join togehter in welcoming 1/Lt McClenny back from the hospital where he spent two weeks convalescing from a bad case of pleurisy. However, in gaining one we have lost another in A/2c Irvin. We hope he recovers rapidly.

Congratulations are in order for S/Sgt Mundy and M/Sgt Jones of the 34th electronics shop. These men have indoctrinated a new refresher course in Loran for the Navigator in our organization. They have a very nice shop set up with operating Loran sets and also arranged for a lecture by Lt. J.G. John Martinez who is with the Loran ground station. Lt. Martinez explained the ground operation and transmission of a Loran site.

2/Lt Paul Helsel

wg. hq. squadron

Sporting new chevrons are: (To the grade of S/Sgt) James W. Gerlach, David L. Citi, Robert D. Russell, (To the grade of A/1c) Dean C. Magee, George C. Sarant, (To the grade of A/2c) Robert Niblock and Neal F. Bonn.

On the 21st of last month. the USS Buckner brought the families of S/Sgt Day and M/Sgt Finch. Sergeant Finch's wife, Edith, and Sergeant Day's wife, Theresa, and three children made the voyage together.

Our Squadron said farewell to: M/Sgt McElroy, T/Sgt Marshall and M/Sgt King. Col. Marion has retired after 20 years of service. Captain Burry is replacing Captain Smith as Stat Svs. officer. 2/Lt Loyd W. Reed is now taking over the duties as our squadon supply officer. Lt. Col Kremer is taking over the duties as Comptroller. Captain Barbuto is now the new Wing Personnel's Officer's Branch officer.

Major Watson and T/Sgt Berger saw Sergeant "Mac" to his plane which will take him on his first lap back to the states. I was on the same plane with him and its the first time I have ever seen a man so nervous that he looks at his wallet to see what time it is and looks at his watch to see the date. *A/Ic George C Sarant*

Lucy Lips writes...

Hello Everybody,

Things have happened since you last heard from me···Helen Ervin and Daughter; mary Ellen, Thelma Ciolli, LuAnne Legget, and Fern Scheirer were in Nagoya AF Hospital for a little while. Mrs. Leggett had a major operation and is rapidly recovering. Evelyn Calhoun is at Nagoya Hospital now, awaiting the birth of a baby girl. Best of luck to you, Evelyn.

A Sayonara Party was held for Lil Carter, who left Miho February 7. Mary Helms and Delores Hambleton were hostesses. Cake, Coffee and tea were served.

The NCO Wives Club held their semi-annual election of officers on Tuesday, February 1. Those elected to office were: Pres: Mrs. Louise Alexander, Vice Pres: Mrs. Nell Tubbs, Secretary; Mrs. Peterson, Treasurer: Mrs. Mary Helms, Historian: Mrs. Thomas.

On February 6, the service club, sponsored their first "all dependents" tour to Mt. Daisen. There was a large turnout and among these attending were Col. and Mrs. Bronson, base commander, and Lt. Col. and Mrs. Haines, Air Base Group commander. Many of the dependents expressed the wish that additional tours for dependents to various points of interest in the area, be sponsored by the service club. *Sayonara··· Lucy*

the Cover

This picture was chosen for the cover not only for its photographic quality but, also, because it captures the spirit of the parade and of the men of the 17th. This photograph illustrates symbolically the cooperation and teamwork which the 17th has shown in many countries of the world and as its history so amply depicts.

On pages 9-13 of this issue, this history of the 17th has been written in a very comphrehensive form so that those who say we lack "esprit de corps" may literally eat their words.

Page 15 of this issue has been dedicated entirely to our recent review and the text, if throughly read, will give those who hate to march a new slant on why and what we accomplish by marching.

For those who want to buy a camera or have a camera already will begreatly enlightened by A/2c Harvey Friedentag's article, "So you want to buy a Japanese camera? This camera not only covers the pros and cons of buying these cameras but also gives interesting facts on Japanese lens, film, and price comparison. Harvey, by the way, took our cover picture which shows A/2c Earl Cox, A/1c John Jones, A/2c William Corwell and A/2c Kish of the 17th Air Police Squadron as color bearers.

Miho and Itazuki split two hoop games

In the first game which was played on Fedruary llth, Itazuki overcame an early lead by the Miho team to gain a win of 54-47.

In this thrill-packed, tense game the lead changed hands several times with half-time score being 23-32' with only four minutes to play, Itazuki 46-44. with only two minutes to play the game was tied 47 to 47. Withinthose two minutes Itazuki scored the seven points which paved their way to vicory.

In the second game which was equally as thrilling, Miho kept the lead throughout the game defeating the hoopers from Itazuki 63 to 50. In this game which kept the fams on the edge of their seats, Bob Fry of Miho scored 21 points.

At the half time, the score stood at 36-25. When the game had five minutes to go, Miho was 18 points ahead. Then, a substitute team was put on the floor for Miho and Itazuki pulled up within 13 points at the end of the game.

During the first game of the series, High point man was Aaron Johnson of Itazuki with 15 points. During this game Miho's Bob Fry and Bobby Palacious each scored 13 points.

Miho March of Dimes drive nets $800

Lieutenant Loyd W. Reed, project officer for the 1955 March of Dimes Campaign, announced that the drive to date has netted $805, 10. All contributions have not been received, but the largest unit donations have come from the Motor Vehicle Squadron, 34th Bomb Sq., 1967 AACS Sq., and the 37th Bomd Sq., rerpectively, In addition to the units, donations have been received from the Base Chapel, Miho Women's Club, and the NCO Club.

Income Tax Forms now available

U. S. individual income tax for 1954 were received at Miho last week and are now being distributed at each unit orderly room.

Deadline for filing income tax returms is April 16th. Only the long form 1040 is available. It is pointed out by aspokesman of the wing legal office that this form may be used in place of short form 1040A by filling in only the front page and tearing off the second sheet.

Persons desiring legal assistance for filling out their tax returns are urged to wait until after February 28th because the legal officers are now away on TDY.

◇ DODO ◇

Heaven only knows how I've tried, Chaplain!

fold and mail home your copy!

from:

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12 cents

to:

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